

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) A composite fabric comprising a creped nonwoven web hydraulically entangled with a fibrous material, said fibrous material constituting at least about 50% by weight of the fabric and containing that contains cellulosic fibers, said cellulosic fibers being driven into said nonwoven web, said creped nonwoven web being formed from continuous splittable multicomponent thermoplastic fibers having individual segments exposed on an outer perimeter thereof.

21. (Original) A composite fabric as defined in claim 20, wherein said fibrous material further contains synthetic staple fibers.

22. (Original) A composite fabric as defined in claim 21, wherein said synthetic staple fibers comprise between about 10% to about 20% by weight of said fibrous material.

23. (Original) A composite fabric as defined in claim 21, wherein said synthetic staple fibers have an average fiber length of between about 0.25 inches to about 0.375 inches.

24. (Original) A composite fabric as defined in claim 20, wherein said multicomponent fibers have a configuration selected from the group consisting of circular, square, multilobal, ribbon, and combinations thereof.

25. (Original) A composite fabric as defined in claim 20, wherein said multicomponent fibers comprise polyethylene, polypropylene, polyester, nylon, and combinations thereof.

26. (Original) A composite fabric as defined in claim 20, wherein said multicomponent fibers are continuous spunbonded thermoplastic fibers.

27. (Original) A composite fabric as defined in claim 20, wherein said nonwoven web is also mechanically stretched in the machine direction.

28. (Original) A composite fabric as defined in claim 27, wherein said nonwoven web is stretched by about 10% to about 100% of its initial length.

29. (Original) A composite fabric as defined in claim 27, wherein said nonwoven web is stretched by about 25% to about 75% of its initial length.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A composite fabric comprising a nonwoven web that contains microfolds imparted by creping, said nonwoven web being formed from continuous spunbonded multicomponent thermoplastic fibers and individual segments separated therefrom, said nonwoven web being integrally hydraulically entangled with a fibrous material, said fibrous material constituting greater than about 50% by weight of the fabric and containing that contains pulp fibers, said pulp fibers being driven into said nonwoven web.

32. (Original) A composite fabric as defined in claim 31, wherein said nonwoven web has also been mechanically stretched in the machine direction.

33. (Original) A composite fabric as defined in claim 32, wherein said nonwoven web has been stretched by about 10% to about 100% of its initial length.

34. (Currently Amended) A composite fabric as defined in claim 32 34, wherein said nonwoven web has been stretched by about 25% to about 75% of its initial length.

35. (New) A composite fabric as defined in claim 20, wherein said fibrous material constitutes from about 60% to about 90% by weight of the fabric.

36. (New) A composite fabric as defined in claim 20, wherein said nonwoven web is bonded prior to entanglement with said fibrous material.

37. (New) A composite fabric as defined in claim 31, wherein said fibrous material constitutes from about 60% to about 90% by weight of the fabric.

38. (New) A composite fabric as defined in claim 20, wherein said nonwoven web is bonded prior to entanglement with said fibrous material.